

Press Release

JULY 11, 2005

SCHAKOWSKY: THE PRESIDENT SHOULD UPHOLD HIS ADMINISTRATION'S PROMISE TO FIRE PLAME LEAK

WASHINGTON, DC -- U.S. Representative Jan Schakowsky today released a statement calling on President Bush to uphold his Administration's promise to fire the person responsible for leaking the identity of a covert CIA agent to the press in 2003. A *Newsweek* article released today reported that Rove had a conversation with *Time* magazine reporter Matthew Cooper on July 11, 2003, revealing the identity of Valerie Plame as a CIA agent specializing in WMD. In September 2003, White House Press Secretary Scott McClellan told reporters, "If anyone in this administration was involved in [the leak], they would no longer be in this administration," and responded "yes" when asked if the leaker should be fired.

Below is the text of Representative Schakowsky's statement:

"For two years President Bush and members of his administration have denied that White House Deputy Chief of Staff Karl Rove revealed the identity of CIA-agent, Valerie Plame. Today it was made clear that these denials did not reflect the truth - Karl Rove leaked the identity of a covert CIA agent to the press. Rove played politics with our national security, Valerie Plame's life, and those associated with her."

"If the President cares more about national security and the safety of our covert agents than he does about politics and protecting his friends, his only choice is to uphold his Administration's promise to fire any person involved in leaking Valerie Plame's identity. The President must fire Karl Rove."

"This scandal requires an answer to the question: When did the President know that one of his top aides revealed the identity of a covert CIA agent? And what will the President do now that America knows Mr. Rove is responsible for endangering Valerie Plame's life?"